

25. (New) The method of stabilizing the enzyme according to Claim 24, wherein the concentration of said albumin is within the range of from 0.5 to 15 w/v%.

26. (New) The method of stabilizing the enzyme according to Claim 24, wherein the concentration of said gelatin is within a range from 0.5 to 15 w/v%.

REMARKS

Applicants thank Examiner Meller for the courteous telephone interview of August 22, 2001, during which the art of record and the claims were discussed. The examiner agreed to consider claims having a scope generally as set forth in the above newly presented claims.

Claims 1-9 have been canceled, and new Claims 10-26 have been added. Claims 10 and 22 are similar in some respects to canceled Claim 1 and include differing recitations of amounts of valine and proline. New Claim 15 relates to a mixture of valine and proline, and also recites amounts for these compounds. Support for the recited amounts of valine and proline can be found on pages 12 and 13 of the specification, and in original claims 2 and 3.

Turning to the rejections, Claims 1-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 , second paragraph, as being indefinite. Cancellation of these claims, and the presentation of new Claims 10-21 obviates the bases for this rejection.

Claims 1-9 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as

being unpatentable over Segal et al, "Symposium On Pyridoxal Enzymes" (hereinafter "Segal 1"), in combination with Segal et al, "Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications" (hereinafter "Segal 2"), in view of JP '109 and JP '499. Reconsideration of this rejection is requested in view of the cancellation of Claims 1-9 and the presentation of new Claims 10-26. Neither Segal 1 nor Segal 2 teaches or suggests the use of valine or proline in the amounts recited in Claims 10 and 22. Furthermore, neither of these references provide any suggestion of the use of a *mixture* of valine and proline, as recited in new Claim 15.

Accordingly, new Claims 10-26 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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